

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-12. (canceled)

13. (previously presented): A coating liquid for forming a transparent coating layer consisting of,

a solvent, an inorganic binder, and a functional group-containing compound having at least one functional group selected from mercapto groups (-SH), sulfide groups (-S-), and polysulfide groups (-S_x-, X ≥ 2),

wherein the mixture ratio of the inorganic binder and the functional group-containing compound is 0.1 to 50 parts by weight functional group-containing compound per 100 parts by weight inorganic binder,

the transparent coating layer is capable of transmitting visible light.

14. (previously presented): A coating liquid for forming a transparent coating layer according to Claim 13, wherein the binder is an inorganic binder containing silica sol.

15. (original): A coating liquid for forming a transparent coating layer according to claim 13 or 14, wherein the functional group-containing compound is a compound containing in its molecules hydrolysable alkoxysilyl groups or functional groups produced by hydrolysis of these groups.

16. (previously presented): A coating liquid for forming a transparent conductive layer consisting of,

a solvent, gold microparticles or gold-containing noble metal microparticles containing 5 wt% or more of gold with a mean particle diameter of 1 to 100 nm, dispersed in the solvent, and a functional group-containing compound having at least one functional group selected from mercapto groups (-SH), sulfide groups (-S-), and polysulfide groups (-S, $X \geq 2$).

17. (original): A coating liquid for forming a transparent conductive layer according to Claim 16, wherein the gold content of the gold-containing noble metal microparticles is set within a range of 50 to 95 wt%.

18. (original): A coating liquid for forming a transparent conductive layer according to Claim 16 or 17, wherein the gold-containing noble metal microparticles are gold-coated silver microparticles in which the surface of silver microparticles is coated with gold.

19. (currently amended): A coating liquid for forming a transparent conductive layer consisting of,
a solvent, gold microparticles or gold-containing noble metal
microparticles containing 5 wt% or more of gold with a mean particle diameter of 1 to
100 nm, dispersed in the solvent, and a functional group-containing compound having at
least one functional group selected from mercapto groups (-SH), sulfide groups (-S-), and
polysulfide groups (-S, $X \geq 2$); ~~according to Claims 16 or 17, containing and,~~
an inorganic binder containing silica sol.

20. (previously presented): A coating liquid for forming a transparent conductive layer according to Claims 16 or 17, wherein the functional group-containing compound is a compound containing in its molecules hydrolysable alkoxysilyl groups or functional groups produced by hydrolysis of these groups.

21. (canceled)

22. (currently amended): A coating liquid for forming a transparent conductive layer consisting of,
a solvent, gold microparticles or gold-containing noble metal
microparticles containing 5 wt% or more of gold with a mean particle diameter of 1 to
100 nm, dispersed in the solvent, and a functional group-containing compound having at
least one functional group selected from mercapto groups (-SH), sulfide groups (-S-), and
polysulfide groups (-S, $X \geq 2$) and ~~according to claim 18, containing~~ an inorganic binder

containing silica sol, wherein the gold-containing noble metal microparticles are gold-coated silver microparticles in which the surface of silver microparticles is coated with gold.

23. (previously presented): A coating liquid for forming a transparent conductive layer according to claim 18, wherein the functional group-containing compound is a compound containing in its molecules hydrolysable alkoxysilyl groups or functional groups produced by hydrolysis of these groups.

24. (previously presented): A coating liquid for forming a transparent conductive layer according to claim 19, wherein the functional group-containing compound is a compound containing in its molecules hydrolysable alkoxysilyl groups or functional groups produced by hydrolysis of these groups.

25. (currently amended): A coating liquid for forming a transparent coating layer consisting of,

a solvent, an inorganic binder, and a functional group-containing compound having at least one functional group selected from mercapto groups (-SH), sulfide groups (-S-), and polysulfide groups (-S_x-, X ≥ 2), according to claim 13 or 14, which contains, as an additive for adjusting the level of refraction of the transparent coating layer, at least one selected from the group consisting of magnesium fluoride microparticles, alumina sol, titania sol and zirconia sol.

26. (new) A coating liquid for forming a transparent conductive layer consisting of,

a solvent, gold microparticles or gold-containing noble metal microparticles containing 5 wt% or more of gold with a mean particle diameter of 1 to 100 nm, dispersed in the solvent, and a functional group-containing compound having at least one functional group selected from mercapto groups (-SH), sulfide groups (-S-), and polysulfide groups (-S, $X \geq 2$) wherein the gold content of the gold-containing noble metal microparticles is set within a range of 50 to 95 wt%; and

an inorganic binder containing silica sol.

27. (new) A coating liquid for forming a transparent conductive layer consisting of,

a solvent, gold microparticles or gold-containing noble metal microparticles containing 5 wt% or more of gold with a mean particle diameter of 1 to 100 nm, dispersed in the solvent, and a functional group-containing compound having at least one functional group selected from mercapto groups (-SH), sulfide groups (-S-), and polysulfide groups (-S, $X \geq 2$), and an inorganic binder containing silica sol, wherein the gold-containing noble metal microparticles are gold-coated silver microparticles in which the surface of silver microparticles is coated with gold, wherein the gold content of the gold-containing noble metal microparticles is set within a range of 50 to 95 wt%.

28. (new) A coating liquid for forming a transparent coating layer consisting of, a solvent, an inorganic binder, and a functional group-containing compound having at least one functional group selected from mercapto groups (-SH), sulfide groups (-S-), and polysulfide groups (-S_x-, X ≥ 2), which contains, as an additive for adjusting the level of refraction of the transparent coating layer, at least one selected from the group consisting of magnesium fluoride microparticles, alumina sol, titania sol and zirconia sol, wherein the binder is an inorganic binder containing silica sol.